

**OBITUARY**



**Bill Decker**

Willard Wood Decker (Bill), age 86, died peacefully at home in Page, Arizona, on September 6, 2014, from incidents associated with age.

He was born on September 3, 1928, in Parowan, Utah, to Vera Wood and Joseph Victor Decker. Bill's early years were spent training to be a hard worker, as he always was by helping his family farm as share farmers around Parowan. He was well liked and actively participated in schools and activities in Parowan, as well as attending college in Cedar City. Bill served in the Army for 18 months, attaining the rank of Staff Sergeant as a Radar Operator.

On June 11, 1950, Minnie Rose Pentico of Park City, Utah, became his bride. On May 11, 1957, their young family was sealed in the Los Angeles Temple. They began their married life in Cedar City, Utah, and later moved to Lancaster, California, working at Edwards Air Force Base; to Biloxi, Mississippi, attending radar training; and to Kanab, Utah, working as a small business owner of "Appliance Sales and Service," before settling as an early pioneer in Page, Arizona, in 1963.

Willard began working at the Glen Canyon Dam during the construction phase, commuting from Kanab and crossing the swinging bridge that spanned the canyon. He continued employment as an electrician at the dam until his

retirement in 1991.

Willard was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, serving as a Counselor to the Bishop, Stake High Councilman, as well as High Priest Group Leader and many other positions. He was a dedicated Home Teacher, who truly cared and served the families he visited. He instilled a love for the Gospel, his Savior, and the church into his children.

Bill will be remembered for his hard work and endless moon-lighting jobs, as he worked on electrical, plumbing, and refrigeration on many homes and businesses in Page. It seemed he could fix anything. He will be especially remembered for his beautiful wife and family of nine children, 37 grandchildren, and 29 great-grandchildren.

Survivors include his wife: Minnie Pentico Decker of Page, Ariz.; children Gean (Lori) Decker of Federal Way, Wash., Dorene (Glenn) Gallier of Mapleton, Utah, Tom (Nona) Decker of Page, Ariz., Diane (Hank) Maddux of South Jordan, Utah, Bruce (Lisa) Decker of Clinton, Utah, Jim (Deann) Decker of Gilbert, Ariz., Alan (Debbie) Decker of Spanish Fork, Utah, Rosie (Richard) Hutchins of St. George, Utah, Glen (Mylene) Decker of West Jordan, Utah; surviving siblings Carol Carter of Parowan, Utah, Retta Waters, and June Parkenson of Overton, Nev.

Willard was preceded in death by his other siblings, Frank Decker, De Vere Wood, Howard Decker, Reta Decker and Sylvia LaBlanc.

Services will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, September 13, 2014, at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, 1301 N. Navajo Dr., Page, Arizona. Burial will follow the services at the Page Cemetery. A viewing will be held at 7 p.m. on Friday, September 12 in the same location.

Arrangements were with Mosdell Mortuary of Kanab.

**Grand to Grand Ultra 2014: spectators welcome**

*By Susana Young*

Tana McTeer, our local Grand to Grand Ultra coordinator, says, "We would like local folks to come out and support G2G 2014."

There will be three opportunities to do so this year.

The first will be Friday afternoon, September 19, next to the Kane County Tourism Office in Kanab between 1 and 4 p.m. for competitor check-in. Check-in consists of formal registration, medical check and mandatory gear check. The backpack of each racer will be examined to ensure each runner has sufficient calories (a minimum of 2,000 per day) for seven days, as well as other important equipment such as a zero-rated sleeping bag, two headlamps, and other survival gear – a total of 15 different items.

The second opportunity will be Tuesday afternoon, September 23. The public will be able to cheer on the runners as they pass near Checkpoint 4 on the "Long Stage" of the race. This stage is 53 miles. The faster runners will be passing by around 2 p.m. Some racers may not pass until 7 p.m. The "cheering section" will be near Angels Rest (the pet cemetery at Best Friends), where parking attendants will be on hand. To reach Angels Rest, simply turn into the main Best Friends entrance and follow the road until you reach Angels Rest (beyond Angels Landing). Please drive slowly so as not to dust the competitors.

To see which contestants might be your favorites, learn all about this year's competitors, including our three local participants, by visiting <http://www.g2gultra.com/race-coverage/meet-the-2014-participants>. The two eldest athletes are 72 years old, and the youngest is 23. There are several returning athletes: Vincent Antunez,

who will have done all three editions, Sarah Lavender Smith and Dan Owings from G2G 2012, and Travis Rolph and Ian Shepherd from G2G 2013. The competitors are raising money for 13 different charities!

The third opportunity will be to join the G2G finishers at a BBQ lunch at Jacob Hamblin Park on Saturday, September 27, at 12:45 p.m. All of the finishers will be transported to the park from the finish line to enjoy their first meal after completing the race. The lunch also coincides with National Public Lands Day. It is co-sponsored by the BLM, Kane County Office of Tourism and Grand to Grand Ultra.

It is important for the com-

petitors to experience and enjoy the wilderness and solitude of the G2G course. Therefore, G2G management urges you to refrain from driving or hiking on

the course or visiting the camps. Do plan to interact with the competitors during the three opportunities mentioned above.



G2G 2013 competitor Roberto Gili (on left) has his backpack checked. Photo courtesy of Grand to Grand Ultra.

**Escalante Arts Festival has Wilderness theme this year**

The Dixie National Forest, Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument, and the Escalante Arts Festival are inviting the public to join them in celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the signing of the Wilderness Act of 1964. This year's Art Festival has a Wilderness theme as it celebrates the extraordinary views offered by the Box-Death Hollow Wilderness located near Escalante, Utah. The week-long celebration will include a series of free events for the public to enjoy:

**The Tramp and the Rough Rider**

• Saturday, September 20 – 7 p.m. – Escalante High School Auditorium

This event is a theatrical performance with Lee Stetson as John Muir and Alan Sutterfield as Theodore Roosevelt. The Tramp and the Roughrider is a delightful illumination of an historic conversation occurring between Theodore

Roosevelt and John Muir in May of 1903, when President Theodore Roosevelt invited the naturalist John Muir on a four-day camping trip in the Yosemite Wilderness.

**Green Fire Aldo Leopold**

• Monday, September 22 – 7 p.m. – Escalante Interagency Visitor Center

The first full-length documentary film ever made about legendary environmentalist Aldo Leopold, *Green Fire* highlights Leopold's extraordinary career, tracing how he shaped and influenced the modern environmental movement. Leopold remains relevant today, inspiring projects all over the country that connect people and land.

**The Spirit of John Muir**

• Tuesday, September 23 – 7 p.m. – Escalante High School Auditorium

This show is a fun romp through some of the very best of Muir's grand, thrilling adventures in his be-

loved western wilderness. The show's theme revolves around the health and invigoration one acquires when one fully and joyfully engages wilderness.

**A Half Century of Conservation and Restoration on the Carrizo Valley Ranch, New Mexico**

• Wednesday, September 24 – 7 p.m. – Escalante Interagency Visitor Center

• Friday, September 26 – 11 a.m. – Escalante Interagency Visitor Center

In 1956, Sid Goodloe, a young West Texan, purchased the 3,450-acre Carrizo Valley Ranch near Capitan, New Mexico. Goodloe's restoration efforts embody the spirit and vision of Aldo Leopold, who was the famous conservation author of *Sand County Almanac*. His program will detail lessons learned over more than 50 years in conservation based ranching.

**BIG WATER DINOSAUR FESTIVAL 2014**  
A CELEBRATION OF ANCIENT LIFE FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY

WWW.BIGWATERDINOSAURFESTIVAL.COM

**FRI. SEPT. 19TH** 7-8 P.M. AZ TIME  
8-9 P.M. UT TIME

Dr. L. Barry Albright will be presenting "15 years of Paleontology in the Glen Canyon - Grand Staircase Region: New Discoveries, Old Discoveries, and What We've Learned" at the Glen Canyon Dam, Carl Hayden Visitor Center. Free Admission

**SATURDAY SEPT. 20TH**  
9 A.M.-5 P.M. AZ TIME  
10 A.M.-6 P.M. UT TIME

The festival will be surrounding the Big Water Town Hall at 60 Aaron Burr, just off Hwy 89 in Big Water, UT.

- Open air arts and craft fair
- Educational displays
- Dinosaur games and activities
- Funtime Inflatables
- Great Food
- Dinosaur drawing contest

**SUN. SEPT. 21ST**  
Paleo Tour guided by BLM paleontologist Dr. Alan Titus. Details available at: [www.bigwaterdinosaurfestival.com](http://www.bigwaterdinosaurfestival.com)

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**1 FREE KIDS DINO CRAFT & \$1 OFF DINOSAUR FESTIVAL T-SHIRT**

Coupon valid only at the Big Water Dinosaur Festival (B.W.D.F.) Arts & Craft fair on September 20, 2014. Redeem this coupon at the B.W.D.F. during the Art & Craft fair at the information booth. Adult supervision at kids craft booth required. 1 Free kids Dino Craft per each kid in the same family, ages 3-10 and \$1 off 1 T-shirt per family.

**Honey's Marketplace**  
Groceries and so much more!

**SMOKED RIB EVENT**

**Come Try Our Signature Smoked Meats**

Fri. Sept. 19th & Sat. Sept. 20th from 11:00 a.m to 7:00 p.m.  
\*While supplies last

**\$5<sup>00</sup> Smoked Rib Meal**     **\$9<sup>99</sup> 1/2 Rack Smoked Ribs**     **\$15<sup>99</sup> Full Rack Smoked Ribs**

**Live Band and Dancing Friday 6 - 10 p.m.**  
In Our Garden Nursery